

Anti-Slavery Office,

New York, 16 July, 1864.

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My Dear Garrison,

Let me thank ~~you~~ for your
reply to Prof. Newman. It is admirable,
and will do good at home as
well as on the other side of the
water. I like especially what you
say of Conway. To those who do not
understand the case, your words may
seem severe, but it is a severity as
necessary as it is deserved. He has
done little else than ^{make} mischief in Eng-
land, and I wish he were here rather
than there. When he first went over,
I was sorry, foreseeing in some

measure what has happened. I
was sorry that you and others
commended him so unqualifiedly
to our friends over there. It was
generous toward him, but hardly
just to yourselves and the cause,
for it gave him a power which
he used for mischief-making.
He came here to get endorse-
ment and aid, but I felt com-
strained to give him the cold
shoulder, and so, I know, did Froth-
ingham. Indeed I remember, we
had a talk about it ^{at the time,} in which
we expressed our regret that he
was going, and our unwillingness
to aid him. He will now, in his

Private intercourse over there, exhibit
your letter of commendation as con-
tradicting what you have said in your
letter to Prof. Newman, and I fear that
some of his admirers may think your
first opinion more unprejudiced, and
therefore more worthy of confidence
than the last. But I think our best
friends in England must have
seen for themselves, ere this, the evidence
of his want of judgment, and that
what you say to Prof. Newman will
confirm their own impressions.

On one point only ~~does~~ ^{does} your
reply seem deficient. I allude to the
system of labor introduced in Louisiana
by Gen. Banks. I suppose you hardly
knew what ~~to say~~ on that subject,

and so said nothing; but I do wish
that some unprejudiced person
would look into the case, and show, as
I have no doubt such a man could, that
while Banks's system is objectionable in
some of its features, it is not half so
bad as Conway and others pretend,
and that he, probably, intended to do
what was best for the negroes. The utter
want of candor exhibited by Conway and
his whole tribe is an offence to my sense
of honor and justice.

But I did not intend to write
so much about this, for I took up my
pen mainly for another purpose.
My dear wife is very feeble, and quite
discouraged about herself. Her physician
wants her to go to the seaside,
believing that the bathing and the salt
air will be good for her. We have

been talking the matter over, but can think of no suitable place. We can hardly afford the expense of any of the fashionable resorts, and indeed her tastes ^{would} incline her to keep away from such places, even if we were rich. She would like a quiet place, at some farmer's house, where the bathing is good and the prices ^{are} not too high. She feels drawn toward the East, especially as she has no clue to such a place as she seeks anywhere in this quarter. We have been away from Massachusetts so long that we hardly know to whom to apply for information. I write to you, therefore, merely to ask if you know of any suitable place, or if you can give me the names of friends to whom

I can write for information. Is
Plymouth a good bathing-place,
and could Mary Anne probably find
~~accommodations~~ ^{accommodations} there? She would go
either to Cape Cod or Cape Ann, or
most anywhere where she can have
the sea air, wholesome food, and good
bathing facilities not too far from
the house. We thought of Plymouth,
~~for~~ remembering your expectation of being
there for a part of the time this sum-
mer, and hoping that M. A. might be
near you.

I don't want you to take
any considerable trouble about this,
but if you can put me in
correspondence with friends in
some two or three different places

I shall be very grateful, and will
be most glad to reciprocate your
kindness.

We are very glad to hear that
Helen is improving so fast. Mary
Anne joins me in love to her and
to you.

Yours, devotedly,

Oliver Johnson.

I forgot to say that M. A. will
go to Providence in a day or two.
Please write to her, care of Thomas
Davis.

